

7 APR 1969

Long-Range HF Communications Equipment*

1. The loss of a long-range reconnaissance aircraft within denied territory presents a difficult problem in locating the aircraft and pilot and in determining his condition and the cause of the loss. Presently these questions are answered, if at all, by the painfully slow reconstruction of the loss environment as reflected by various intelligence inputs. Even then, the answers are usually inferential rather than definitive.

2. The pilot, however, if he has survived the incident and remains uncaptured, would be uniquely qualified to answer these questions and also to aid in his own rescue if he were provided with long-range communications equipment along with his other survival gear.

3. The Agency has developed a variety of miniature transmitters and receivers for use by covert agents. A review of these available items indicates the RT-48, RR-49 combination (see picture attached) would be well suited for inclusion in project pilots' survival kits. The set, including battery, weighs no more than 4-1/2 pounds, is compact, rugged, reliable, and simple to use. Even under poor conditions the expected transmitting range should be not less than 750 miles. The cost is approximately \$2,000.

4. The RT-48 and RR49 are shelf items and are no longer considered sensitive as substantial numbers have been lost to the opposition. Project pilots presently know Morse code but would require some training by OSA Communications Division personnel in transmitting and the use of the equipment. Due to space and weight limitations some items now carried in the seat kits will have to be removed to make room for this equipment. We anticipate no problems in accomplishing this, however, due to the obvious value of long-range communications both to the pilot and to Project Headquarters.

S E C R E T

5. By limiting the number and length of his transmission, and by the use of brevity codes, there is little chance of the downed pilot's position or the content of his messages being compromised.

* Excerpts taken from OSA-3353-67 dated 30 Oct 67
Memo for D/SA, Subject: Provision of Long-Range
HF Communications Equipment for Project Pilots'
Survival Kits; From C/Intell/O/OSA

S E C R E T